

## Claims

1. Use of peptones and/or meat extract in the manufacture of an oral composition to treat the effects of infection by enterotoxin-producing pathogens.
- 5 2. The use of claim 1 wherein the effects include failure of gut epithelial integrity, diarrhoea and other COX-2 mediated effects.
3. The use of claim 1 or 2 wherein the pathogen is *Clostridium difficile*, *Clostridium perfringens*, *E. coli*, *Leishmania donovani*, *Vibrio cholera*, *Salmonella typhimurium*,  
10 *Shingellae*, *Aeromonas hydrophila*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and/or enterotoxigenic *Bacteroides fragilis*.
4. The use of any preceding claim wherein the oral composition comprises from 0.3 to  
15 7% by volume of peptones or meat extract.
5. The use of any preceding claim wherein the peptones are hydrolysates of whey protein with an average peptide size of not greater than 5 amino acids.
- 20 6. The use of any preceding claim wherein the oral composition comprises both peptones and meat extract.
7. The use of claim 6, wherein the oral composition comprises from 0.3 to 7% by volume of meat extract and from 0.3 to 7% by volume of peptones.
- 25 8. The use of any preceding claim wherein the oral composition further comprises yeast extract.
9. The use of claim 8 wherein the oral composition comprises from 0.01 to 5% by  
30 volume of yeast extract.
10. The use of any preceding claim wherein the oral composition is an adjuvant to a medicinal treatment.
- 35 11. The use of any preceding claim wherein the oral composition is an infant formula or an enteral composition.